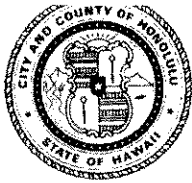


TO: CLK MAIN

FROM: COUNCIL MARSHALL



CITY COUNCIL

CITY AND COUNTY OF HONOLULU
HONOLULU, HAWAII 96813-3065

News Release

May 15, 2009
For Immediate Release

Contact: Ikaika Anderson
Phone: (808) 768-5003

WINDWARD COUNCILMEMBER ANDERSON TO HOLD INFORMATIONAL MEETING AT KAILUA DISTRICT PARK ON WEDNESDAY REGARDING REMOVAL OF CITY TREES

Responding to numerous inquiries from the community, newly-elected City Councilmember Ikaika Anderson will be hosting an informational community meeting at the Kailua District Park meeting room on Wednesday May 20 at 6pm to discuss the removal of certain City-owned trees in Kailua.

Recently, City and County of Honolulu certified arborists have determined that 20 City trees in Kailua are diseased beyond rehabilitation, and must be removed due to liability concerns about the trees falling. While this is a basic function of the City Department of Parks and Recreation's Urban Forestry Division, many residents of Kailua are concerned that the decision to remove these trees had been reached arbitrarily. Additionally, the residents expressed concern that there would be no opportunity for the community to have a say regarding new trees that would replace the diseased trees. Anderson shares the community's concerns.

Commenting on the decision to hold this meeting Councilmember Anderson explained: "I have received countless phone calls and emails from our constituents who are both surprised and concerned with the City's decision to remove so many of the 50+ year-old trees in Kailua. Our community deserves an opportunity to voice their concerns, to have the City available to actively listen to them, and to be included in this entire process. I invite the Department of Parks and Recreation to join our community at this informational meeting in Kailua on Wednesday."

For additional information, please contact Councilmember Anderson's Honolulu Hale office at 768-5003.

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